

Serial No.: 09/748,994
Attorney Docket No.: F-240

Patent

Amendment To The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1: (currently amended) A method of authenticating information a facsimile document communicated between a first facsimile communication device and a second facsimile communication device via a communications network, comprising the steps of:

- a. receiving input data representing the entire facsimile document and generating facsimile information in a first format by said first communication device from said input data;
- b. processing said input data to compute an encrypted checksum of the entire input data;
- c. convolving said facsimile information with said encrypted checksum data to produce convolved data;
- d. decrypting, at said second communication device, said encrypted checksum;
- e. computing a checksum of said input data received at said second communications device; and
- f. alerting a recipient at said second communication device in the event of a mismatch between said checksum data computed in step (e) and said decrypted checksum data in step (d).

Claims 2-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5: (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a database system is communicatively coupled to said second facsimile communication device.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

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Claim 7: (previously amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of configuring an e-mail system for receiving and displaying an alert message to said recipient along with said received input data.

Claims 8-9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10: (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of alerting the recipient at said second facsimile communication device in the event of a mismatch includes printing a clear mark across a print out of the received input data indicating a tamper condition.

Claim 11: (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of alerting the recipient at said second facsimile communication device in the event of a mismatch includes displaying a clear mark across a computer display of the received input data indicating a tamper condition.

Claim 12: (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the convolved data is transmitted to the second facsimile communication device as an e-mail attachment.

**Claim 13: (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
Sending the convolved data to a third facsimile communication device.**

**Claim 14: (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a user name and password from a user with the second facsimile communication device.**